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# Foreign Crops and MARKETS

VOLUME 56 NUMBER 17

WORLD SUMMARIES:

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## LATE NEWS

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The 1947-48 cotton crop in Haiti is estimated at 11,000 bales of 500 pounds gross which is roughly equal to Haitian production since 1939-40 but only about half of the prewar average.

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Cotton acreage in Iran is expected to be increased considerably this year as a result of current favorable prices and the lifting of a ban on cotton planting in certain areas in the southern part of the country.

- - - -

The fourth official estimate places the 1947-48 cotton crop in Burma at 33,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) from 177,000 acres compared with 21,000 bales from 135,000 acres in 1946-47. About 26,000 bales of the 1947-48 crop are reported as export surplus.

- - - -

The 1947-48 cotton crop in Uganda (British East Africa) is estimated at 142,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), compared with 190,000 bales a year ago. The decrease is attributed to extremely dry weather during the growing season, resulting in stunted plants and immature bolls.

- - - -

Consumption (all purposes) of cotton in Canada in February 1948 was reported at 31,800 bales (of 500 pounds gross) bringing the total since August 1, 1947 to 207,000 bales which is 2,000 less than that for a comparable period in 1946-47.

Imports of 191,000 bales during August-January 1947-48 were slightly above the 186,000 bales imported during a similar period a year ago. Imports from the United States showed a decrease from 167,000 to 100,000 for the respective periods, those from Brazil increased from 6,000 to 24,000 and those from Mexico rose from 11,000 to 63,000. Imports from other sources totaled less than 5,000 bales in each 6-month period.

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## WORLD POTATO CROP SLIGHTLY BELOW 1946

World potato production for the 1947-48 season is estimated at 7,280 million bushels, only slightly less than that produced in 1946-47 but about 14 percent less than the 5-year (1935-39) average of 8,418 million bushels.

The total acreage harvested in 1947-48 is estimated at 51.2 million acres or about 4 percent more than in 1946-47 but 3 percent less than the 5-year (1935-39) average. Compared with prewar, there was a sharp reduction of acreage in the United States, but this was offset by increases throughout Europe. Yields in Europe excluding the U.S.S.R., however, were somewhat reduced by drought and shortages of fertilizers. In the United States yield was slightly below 1946. The yield per acre for the world was 142 bushels compared with 149 bushels in 1946-47 and 160 bushels, the 1935-39 average.

North America: Potato production in North and Central America totaled 470 million bushels in 1947-48 compared with 575 million bushels in 1946-47 and the 1935-39 average of 427 million bushels. Although yields were slightly below those of the previous season, the primary cause of the decline in production was the sharp reduction in acreage in the United States. Production in the United States was 100 million bushels less than in 1946-47.

Europe: The 1947-48 potato crop in Europe (excluding the U.S.S.R.) is estimated at 3,781 million bushels, which is less than in 1946-47 by 178 million bushels or 4.5 percent. In this group of countries the acreage for harvest was increased 4 percent over the previous year but yields were down because of generally unfavorable early growing conditions and drought in the late summer and fall. Production was about 22 percent below the prewar average of 4,852 million bushels. The drought was particularly severe in Czechoslovakia, Austria, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Scandinavian countries, and production was sharply down in all of these except Germany and Sweden, where the reduction was moderate. Eire also had a moderately smaller crop. In all other European countries production was either as large as last year or larger.

U.S.S.R: Potato production in the U.S.S.R. in 1947 was the best since before the war. It totaled 2,569 million bushels or 257 million (11 percent) more than in 1946 and compares with the 5-year (1935-39) average of 2,777 million bushels. Both acreage for harvest and yield per acre were above 1946.

Asia: In Asia potato production in the 1947-48 season totaled 281 million bushels, which was nearly 22 percent more than the prewar average. Production in Japan, Korea and Turkey and other Middle East countries has increased sharply in recent years while that in India has declined.

Africa: Potato production in Africa totaled 27 million bushels in 1947-48, about the same as in 1946-47 but about 5 million bushels more than in prewar years.

South America: The crop now being harvested in South America is expected to total 120 million bushels, which will be about 2 percent less than in the previous season but about 33 percent more than the prewar average of 91 million bushels.

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This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production prepared by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of C.M. Purves, Acting Chairman, Gustave Burmeister, Flora E. Miles, Lois E. Bacon and Constance H. Farnworth.

(Table on following pages)

Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified area, average 1935-39, annual 1945-47 a/

| Continent and country | Acreage b/ |  |  |  | Yield per acre |  |  |  | Production |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Average 1935-39 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 c/ | Average 1935-39 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 c/ | Average 1935-39 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 c/ |
|  | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | Bushels | Bushels | Bushels | Bushels | 1,000 bushels | 1,000 bushels | 1,000 bushels | 1,000 bushels |
| North America: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Canada | 516 | 508 | 521 | 497 | 124.8 | 118.1 | 153.4 | 151.3 | 64,385 | 59,977 | 79,938 | 75,190 |
| El Salvador | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 30.0 | 33.0 | 41.0 | 26.0 | 30 | 33 | 41 | 26 |
| Guatemala | 5 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 76.4 | 55.8 | 55.8 | 55.8 | 382 | 670 | 670 | 670 |
| Mexico | 37 | 68 | 67 | 67 | 68.9 | 68.5 | 68.0 | 68.5 | 2,548 | 4,660 | 4,556 | 4,593 |
| Newfoundland | 20 | 12 | 20 | 20 | 109.3 | 137.5 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 2,185 | 1,650 | 2,200 | 2,200 |
| Panama | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 20.0 | 34.5 | 22.7 | 22.7 | 40 | 69 | 68 | 68 |
| United States | 3,033 | 2,700 | 2,599 | 2,112 | 117.2 | 155.1 | 186.3 | 182.0 | 355,504 | 418,765 | 484,174 | 384,407 |
| Bermuda | d/ | d/ | d/ | d/ | - | - | - | - | 78 | 84 | 60 | 40 |
| Cuba | 16 | 20 | 24 | 20 | 115.6 | 108.4 | 111.1 | 125.8 | 1,850 | 2,167 | 2,667 | 2,517 |
| Dominican Republic | 4 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 15.0 | 12.7 | 16.5 | 18.3 | 60 | 76 | 66 | 73 |
| Jamaica | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 30.0 | 34.7 | 29.5 | 29.5 | 60 | 104 | 118 | 118 |
| Puerto Rico | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 23.0 | 24.0 | 24.0 | 24.0 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| Total | 3,637 | 3,333 | 3,256 | 2,741 | 117.4 | 146.5 | 176.5 | 171.4 | 427,145 | 488,279 | 574,582 | 469,926 |
| Europe: e/ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Albania | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 68.0 | 68.0 | 55.0 | 55.7 | 68 | 68 | 165 | 167 |
| Austria | 520 | 371 | 494 | 445 | 203.9 | 148.6 | 163.6 | 146.1 | 106,037 | 55,115 | 80,835 | 65,000 |
| Belgium f/ | 383 | 247 | 284 | 297 | 305.1 | 223.1 | 291.1 | 296.9 | 116,872 | 55,115 | 82,672 | 88,183 |
| Bulgaria g/ | 45 | - | - | - | 87.6 | - | - | - | 3,944 | - | - | - |
| Czechoslovakia | h/ 1,754 | 1,618 | 1,582 | 1,485 | h/ 195.2 | 139.0 | 210.0 | 109.3 | h/342,338 | 224,905 | 332,290 | 162,250 |
| Denmark | 188 | 265 | 255 | 263 | 253.6 | 223.2 | 260.8 | 262.7 | 47,668 | 59,157 | 66,505 | 69,077 |
| Eire | 328 | 388 | 391 | 381 | 299.7 | 287.1 | 286.9 | 287.3 | 98,288 | 111,395 | 112,167 | 109,468 |
| Finland | 185 | 172 | 191 | 224 | 227.4 | 169.4 | 187.4 | 199.1 | 42,077 | 29,131 | 35,788 | 44,606 |
| France i/ | 3,489 | 2,634 | 2,760 | 3,047 | 164.3 | 114.6 | 167.4 | 157.4 | 573,225 | 301,773 | 461,937 | 479,574 |
| Germany | h/ 4,934 | 3,981 | 4,584 | 5,042 | h/ 249.0 | 193.7 | 205.4 | 178.5 | h/1,228,513 | 770,985 | 941,548 | 900,000 |
| Greece | 53 | 48 | 57 | 77 | 104.1 | 103.3 | 152.8 | 136.9 | 5,518 | 4,960 | 8,708 | 10,545 |
| Hungary | 729 | 747 | 634 | 693 | 109.2 | 83.2 | 66.3 | 69.2 | 79,637 | 62,133 | 42,005 | 47,941 |
| Iceland | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 77.3 | 80.0 | 80.0 | 80.0 | 232 | 240 | 240 | 240 |
| Italy | 1,041 | 970 | 999 | 1,062 | 96.9 | 55.6 | 86.1 | 96.9 | 100,917 | 53,914 | 86,052 | 102,881 |
| Luxembourg | 42 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 188.8 | 205.8 | 246.6 | 202.1 | 7,929 | 4,115 | 4,931 | 4,042 |
| Malta and Gozo | 9 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 110.4 | 112.5 | 111.1 | 111.1 | 994 | 900 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Netherlands | 323 | 426 | 467 | 498 | 311.9 | 223.5 | 334.0 | 340.2 | 100,747 | 95,215 | 155,967 | 169,415 |
| Norway | 127 | 160 | 154 | 140 | 258.5 | 255.4 | 287.4 | 238.6 | 32,830 | 40,865 | 44,255 | 33,400 |
| Poland | h/ 6,810 | 3,484 | 5,200 | 5,400 | h/ 205.1 | 158.0 | 146.2 | 148.1 | h/1,396,761 | 550,415 | 760,000 | 800,000 |
| Portugal | 77 | 156 | 165 | 167 | 269.8 | 174.9 | 180.7 | 182.6 | 20,777 | 27,280 | 29,820 | 30,500 |
| Rumania | h/ 383 | 588 | 509 | 527 | h/ 126.0 | 90.6 | 46.4 | 100.7 | h/ 48,270 | 53,247 | 23,631 | 53,061 |
| Spain | h/ 1,126 | 889 | 1,000 | 1,003 | h/ 151.8 | 110.1 | 156.2 | 151.3 | h/170,977 | 97,888 | 156,159 | 151,800 |
| Sweden | 325 | 359 | 354 | 351 | 205.0 | 169.8 | 201.5 | 175.7 | 66,631 | 60,953 | 71,320 | 61,678 |
| Switzerland j/ | 120 | 207 | 183 | 165 | 220;3 | 285.3 | 202.2 | 266.9 | 26,430 | 59,064 | 37,010 | 44,032 |
| United Kingdom j/ | 719 | 1,397 | 1,423 | 1,330 | 254.1 | 261.7 | 266.7 | 217.8 | 182,666 | 365,531 | 379,531 | 289,707 |
| Yugoslavia | 646 | - | - | - | 80.0 | - | - | - | 51,666 | - | - | - |
| Total Europe k/ (excl. U.S.S.R.) | 24,360 | 19,830 | 22,482 | 23,422 | 199.2 | 157.5 | 176.1 | 161.4 | 4,852,012 | 3,123,863 | 3,959,143 | 3,781,398 |
| U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) | 21,232 | 20,433 | 18,955 | 20,554 | 130.8 | 120.0 | 122.0 | 125.0 | 2,777,395 | 2,451,960 | 2,312,510 | 2,569,250 |
| Asia: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cyprus | 6 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 159.7 | 124.9 | 133.3 | 136.1 | 958 | 1,124 | 1,200 | 1,225 |
| Lebanon and Syria | 17 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 90.1 | 97.2 | 96.8 | 102.4 | 1,531 | 1,749 | 1,839 | 1,842 |
| Palestine | 2 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 134.5 | 134.0 | 144.7 | 140.0 | 269 | 1,206 | 1,736 | 1,400 |
| Turkey | 135 | 129 | 136 | 149 | 49.2 | 47.7 | 88.9 | 86.1 | 6,640 | 6,149 | 12,089 | 12,827 |
| Manchuria and Jehol | 600 | 988 | 950 | 950 | 100.0 | 89.3 | 92.6 | 92.6 | 60,000 | 88,183 | 88,000 | 88,000 |
| India | 449 | 420 | 410 | 405 | 150.0 | 150.0 | 146.3 | 143.2 | 67,349 | 63,000 | 60,000 | 58,000 |
| Japan | 293 | 529 | 432 | 561 | 218.8 | 121.8 | 146.7 | 143.6 | 64,106 | 64,448 | 63,382 | 80,541 |
| Korea | 286 | 426 | 345 | 340 | 91.0 | 83.2 | 94.8 | 96.5 | 26,021 | 35,450 | 32,720 | 34,575 |
| Karafuto (Japanese Sakhalin) | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 127.0 | 130.0 | 130.0 | 130.0 | 1,270 | 1,300 | 1,300 | 1,300 |
| Kwantung Leased Territory | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 170 | 170 | 170 | 170 |
| Java and Madura | 27 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 71.9 | 60.0 | 61.5 | 61.5 | 1,941 | 1,500 | 1,600 | 1,600 |
| Philippine Islands | d/ | d/ | d/ | d/ | - | - | - | - | 8 | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| Total Asia (excl. U.S.S.R.) | 1,827 | 2,565 | 2,351 | 2,480 | 126.0 | 103.0 | 112.3 | 113.5 | 230,263 | 264,284 | 264,041 | 281,486 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **South America:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Argentina | 311 | 460 | 439 | 425 | 85.3 | 94.5 | 68.2 | 72.9 | 26,523 | 43,449 | 29,911 | 31,001 |
| Bolivia | 45 | 60 | 45 | 45 | 44.4 | 50.0 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 2,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 4,000 |
| Brazil | 168 | 160 | 165 | 162 | 93.0 | 99.1 | 132.6 | 111.1 | 15,619 | 15,857 | 21,887 | 18,000 |
| Chile | 121 | 140 | 133 | 129 | 129.4 | 172.8 | 157.2 | 155.7 | 15,652 | 26,039 | 20,916 | 20,089 |
| Colombia | 122 | 124 | 237 | 237 | 72.4 | 123.9 | 71.3 | 71.7 | 8,838 | 15,358 | 16,902 | 17,000 |
| Ecuador | 54 | 64 | 62 | 62 | 43.3 | 70.3 | 67.7 | 67.7 | 2,336 | 4,499 | 4,200 | 4,200 |
| Paraguay | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 58.0 | 50.0 | 45.0 | 47.0 | 58 | 50 | 45 | 47 |
| Peru | 400 | 320 | 340 | 340 | 45.0 | 68.8 | 71.3 | 70.6 | 18,000 | 22,000 | 24,250 | 24,000 |
| Uruguay | 18 | 19 | 19 | 24 | 59.9 | 58.3 | 57.8 | 61.3 | 1,079 | 1,108 | 1,099 | 1,470 |
| Venezuela | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Total South America | 1,250 | 1,358 | 1,451 | 1,435 | 72.5 | 97.1 | 84.6 | 83.8 | 90,605 | 131,860 | 122,710 | 120,307 |
| **Africa:** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Algeria | 44 | 25 | 30 | 30 | 105.2 | 76.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 4,627 | 1,900 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Belgian Congo | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 81.3 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 66.7 | 244 | 180 | 180 | 200 |
| Kenya | 4 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 75.0 | 126.8 | 100.0 | 114.3 | 300 | 1,014 | 800 | 800 |
| Tanganyika | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 25.0 | 27.0 | 22.0 | 25.0 | 25 | 27 | 22 | 25 |
| Egypt | 10 | 26 | 30 | 30 | 195.8 | 144.9 | 133.3 | 133.3 | 1,958 | 3,768 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Eritrea and Italian Somaliland | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| French Morocco | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 156.2 | 129.3 | 133.3 | 125.0 | 625 | 388 | 400 | 500 |
| Madagascar | 33 | 40 | 40 | 40 | 52.1 | 55.1 | 55.0 | 55.0 | 1,718 | 2,205 | 2,200 | 2,200 |
| Mauritius | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 31.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 25.0 | 31 | 20 | 20 | 25 |
| Mozambique | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 42.7 | 57.5 | 57.5 | 60.0 | 128 | 115 | 115 | 120 |
| Nigeria and Cameroons | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Southern Rhodesia | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 120.5 | 100.0 | 80.0 | 100.0 | 241 | 500 | 400 | 500 |
| South West Africa | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 5.0 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 5 |
| Tunisia | 6 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 56.3 | 25.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 338 | 100 | 200 | 200 |
| Union of South Africa | 89 | 91 | 96 | 94 | 69.7 | 85.2 | 122.4 | 117.0 | 6,203 | 7,750 | 11,750 | 11,000 |
| Other countries | 117 | 77 | 84 | 84 | 47.6 | 39.4 | 55.3 | 53.6 | 5,574 | 3,032 | 4,642 | 4,500 |
| Total Africa | 320 | 289 | 311 | 309 | 68.9 | 72.7 | 89.2 | 87.7 | 22,040 | 21,020 | 27,750 | 27,090 |
| **Oceania:** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia | 114 | 210 | 203 | 203 | 113.2 | 119.0 | 123.2 | 123.2 | 12,900 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| Hawaiian Islands | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 60.0 | 70.0 | 70.0 | 70.0 | 120 | 140 | 140 | 140 |
| New Caledonia | 8 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 60.0 | 69.3 | 95.6 | 87.5 | 480 | 624 | 860 | 700 |
| New Zealand | 21 | 23 | 19 | 19 | 232.9 | 227.7 | 227.4 | 226.3 | 4,891 | 5,236 | 4,321 | 4,300 |
| Total Oceania | 145 | 244 | 233 | 232 | 126.8 | 127.0 | 130.1 | 129.9 | 18,391 | 31,000 | 30,321 | 30,140 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total World | 52,771 | 48,052 | 49,039 | 51,173 | 159.5 | 135.5 | 148.7 | 142.3 | 8,417,851 | 6,512,266 | 7,291,057 | 7,279,597 |

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign service officers, results of office research, and other information.

a/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1947 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which began late in 1947 and ended early in 1948.

b/ Figures refer to harvested areas when available.

c/ Preliminary.

d/ Less than 500 acres.

e/ Estimates for each country have been revised to coincide with present boundaries except as noted.

f/ Official data for 1945 to date have been adjusted on a comparable basis with the 1935-39 average which included small holdings.

g/ Estimates for 1945 to date include Southern Dobrudja and, therefore, are not strictly comparable with earlier years shown.

h/ Czechoslovakia and Rumania, 5 years 1933-37; Germany and Poland, 5 years 1934-38; Spain, 2 years 1935 and 1939.

i/ Official estimates but believed to be conservative in 1946 and 1947. Includes home plots and market gardens.

j/ Excludes gardens and allotments for 1945 to date.

k/ Estimated totals include allowance for missing data for countries shown.

# WORLD CACAO BEAN PRODUCTION BELOW REQUIREMENTS

World production of cacao beans has been on a relatively low level in the postwar period, and will probably continue below requirements for some time.

The output in 1947-48 of an estimated 1,309 million pounds is 8 percent less than the previous season's outturn of 1,424 million pounds, and 17 percent less than the average annual production of about 1,579 million pounds during 1935-39. The decrease in 1947-48 production in comparison with the prewar years is not confined to one area, but is found in nearly all producing countries. In the few cases where increases are shown they are small. Africa accounts for about 66 percent of total world cacao production, the Americas 33 percent, and Asia and Oceania 1 percent.

The current low production appears to be the result of several factors, rather than of any single one. Weather conditions were generally unfavorable for the 1947-48 crop. Droughts reduced yields by causing fewer pods to form, and heavy rains at harvest time not only prevented gathering all the fruit, but were conducive to the spread of black pod disease. The cacao trees in most countries have passed their peak production periods, and there are few young trees to take their place. Cacao trees do not bear until the fourth or fifth year and do not reach maximum production until the tenth or twelfth.

Cacao growing in the late 1930's was not particularly remunerative, consequently little care was taken of the cacao stands and the normal amount of replacement and new plantings that would now be coming into full production was not made. Uncertain marketing conditions during the war, shortage of labor, and the more attractive financial returns from other pursuits led to further neglect of the trees with the result that diseases became widespread in West Africa and in certain of the American producing countries. The control of swollen shoot and witches' broom, the most harmful of cacao diseases, is most difficult. For swollen shoot the present only known preventative is the destruction of the infected trees and for witches' broom, the planting of trees which are resistant to the disease.

Rapid improvement in the cacao supply situation can hardly be expected, on account of the nature of the ailments afflicting the industry. Rehabilitation seems to call for extensive replanting with high-yielding, disease-resistant trees and the establishment of new plantings in suitable areas. Obviously this program is incapable of realization in a short time. Improved cultural methods, including more careful harvesting and disease prevention measures now being practiced in most producing countries, will result in somewhat larger yields, but production probably will continue below requirements for several years.

## Africa

The Gold Coast is the world's largest cacao producer, and, despite the large drop in production from 609 million pounds annually in 1935-39 to about 480 million pounds in 1947-48, still accounts for about 37 percent of total world production. The ravages of swollen shoot disease, black pod, and insect pests, principally the capsid bugs (*Sahlbergella singularis* and *Distantiella theobroma*), and the adverse effects of unfavorable weather for three seasons are responsible for the sharp decrease in production.

Swollen shoot is widespread in the Gold Coast and is a serious threat to the industry. An extensive cutting-out program is currently in effect. Black pod disease did more damage than usual, as rains during the early part of the main harvest were favorable to its development. This disease, however, is relatively easy to control and ordinarily does not damage a large percentage of the pods. The future trend in production in the Gold Coast depends to a large extent on the success of the campaign against swollen shoot, but, with favorable weather conditions during the next season, production probably will approximate that of 1947-48.

Nigeria, the third largest cacao-producing country in the world, has a 1947-48 crop estimated at 180 million pounds, which is the smallest in years. Prewar production averaged about 218 million pounds annually, and the 1945-46 and 1946-47 crops were even larger, or 229 and 246 million pounds respectively. Unfavorable weather is largely responsible for the current reduced outturn, although as usual, capsid bugs and black pod disease exacted a large toll. Swollen shoot has occurred in Nigeria, but infected trees have been destroyed promptly with the result that the disease has not gained a foothold. Assuming favorable weather, production next season should show a marked increase over the present one.

The Ivory Coast, formerly the most important producer in the French Colonies, has yielded first place to the Cameroons. This season's crop in the Ivory Coast is estimated at 66 million pounds which is about 60 percent of prewar. Diseases, insect pests, shortage of labor, and drought are the immediate causes for the smaller outturn. Other factors are the preponderance of old trees and the abandonment of plantings during the war years because of the uncertainty of marketing the produce. Swollen shoot is found in the Ivory Coast in the areas adjacent to the Gold Coast, but its incidence would only account for a small percentage of the drop in production. Other diseases and pests have been more destructive. Although measures are being taken to restore cacao production in the Ivory Coast to the prewar level, no marked change appears likely in the near future.

The French Cameroons is one of the few places with a cacao production above prewar. Outturn during 1947-48 is estimated at 77 million pounds while that during 1935-39 was about 58 million. The increase is largely due to young trees reaching the period of maximum productivity and their comparative freedom from disease. No swollen shoot has been found. Cacao plantings in the Cameroons suffered less neglect during the war years than those in the other French Colonies, inasmuch as the British Government, through appropriate agencies purchased part of the 1939-40 crop and all the crops thereafter until January 1945. In all probability, production in the French Cameroons will continue to increase.

## The Americas

The 1947-48 crop of 212 million pounds in Brazil, the second largest cacao producing country in the world, is considerably below the prewar average of 264 million pounds and the 1946-47 crop of 312 million pounds. Unfavorable weather was chiefly responsible for the small current crop. Despite this year's poor outturn, however, prospects are good for larger harvests in the future, as the labor supply is adequate and no serious diseases menace the industry.

Cacao production in Ecuador has shown a downward trend for a number of years. The outturn of about 34 million pounds in 1947-48 compares with the 1935-39 average of 42 million pounds and the 1910-1914 average of about 89 million pounds. There is little prospect of much improvement in Ecuador's production, as 90 percent of the trees in some areas are heavily diseased. Both witches' broom and monilia are widespread.

Although the general trend in cacao production in Venezuela has been downward, the exceptionally high prices for cacao beans during the past two years may halt the trend at least temporarily. Venezuela's 1947-48 production of about 40 million pounds compares favorably with prewar, but the extreme shortage of labor, the large percentage of old trees, and the spread of witches' broom are expected to operate against any marked increase in production.

Colombia's current production of about 26 million pounds is slightly above prewar. No cacao is exported, as domestic production falls short of consumption requirements by about 12 million pounds annually.

The 1947-48 production in Costa Rica of about 10.5 million pounds exceeds that of the previous two seasons but is considerably below the prewar average of 14 million pounds. Weather conditions hve been more favorable for the current crop than for several years past, resulting in less damage from pod rot, which sometimes destroys as much as 70 percent of the October-February harvest.

Current cacao production in the Panama Republic of about 5 million pounds is about 50 percent of the prewar output. The reduction is attributed to labor shortages and greater emphasis upon other crops during the war years.

Nearly all the cacao produced in Mexico and Cuba is consumed locally. Current production in both these countries is placed at about 7 million pounds. For Cuba, this is about equal to prewar, but in Mexico there has been nearly a threefold increase.

Although weather conditions were unfavorable for the current crop in the Dominican Republic, estimated at 60 million pounds, it shows some increase over the prewar average of 54 million pounds. The general outlook for cacao production in the Republic is bright. No deadly diseases, such as swollen shoot or witches' broom are found, and there is an adequate supply of labor. Although no data are available on the ages of the trees, it is believed that the percentage of young trees is relatively large.

Current production in the British West Indies is only about one-third of prewar. Trinidad and Tobago with a prewar output of 32 million pounds have an estimated 1947-48 crop of 9 million pounds. Witches' broom is the principal cause of the sharp decrease. Grenada's current harvest will yield about 5 million pounds compared with 9 million pounds before the war. Jamaica's crop, estimated at 3.8 million pounds, is about 1 million pounds less than the prewar average. Soil depletion and competition of other crops largely account for the production decrease in Grenada and Jamaica.

## Asia and Oceania

Little information is available on the cacao situation in the few producing countries of Asia and Oceania. Production in Ceylon has dropped from about

(Continued on Page 319; table follows)

## CACAO BEANS: Estimated production in principal producing countries, average 1935-39, annual crop years 1945-46/1947-48 1/

| Country | Average 1935-39 2/ | 1945-46 | 1946-47 | 1947-48 3/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds |
| AFRICA | | | | |
| Belgian Congo | 2,809 | 2,600 | 2,500 | 3,300 |
| French Cameroons | 58,349 | 77,160 | 80,000 | 77,000 |
| Ivory Coast & Dahomey | 109,937 | 79,365 | 55,115 | 66,135 |
| Gold Coast & Togo | 609,363 | 469,000 | 430,000 | 480,000 |
| Nigeria & Cameroons | 216,318 | 229,000 | 246,000 | 180,000 |
| San Thome & Principe | 22,496 | 27,775 | 20,000 | 23,000 |
| Spanish Guinea | 25,000 | 38,000 | 29,000 | 30,000 |
| Other 4/ | 10,599 | 9,103 | 8,485 | 8,420 |
| Total | 1,054,871 | 932,003 | 871,100 | 867,855 |
| THE AMERICAS | | | | |
| Costa Rica | 14,356 | 10,110 | 9,540 | 10,500 |
| Mexico | 2,500 | 5,860 | 6,500 | 7,000 |
| Panama Republic | 10,418 | 4,800 | 6,500 | 6,600 |
| Cuba | 7,000 | 5,000 | 6,000 | 7,000 |
| Dominican Republic | 54,049 | 55,100 | 69,500 | 60,000 |
| Haiti | 3,349 | 3,000 | 4,000 | 4,400 |
| Jamaica | 4,750 | 3,360 | 4,160 | 3,800 |
| Grenada | 8,536 | 5,200 | 5,700 | 4,800 |
| Trinidad & Tobago | 31,635 | 9,000 | 10,000 | 9,000 |
| Brazil | 263,980 | 220,715 | 312,419 | 211,500 |
| Colombia | 25,000 | 16,535 | 24,250 | 26,000 |
| Ecuador | 42,373 | 37,337 | 37,200 | 35,000 |
| Venezuela | 36,934 | 38,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Other 5/ | 1,307 | 1,300 | 1,350 | 1,350 |
| Total | 506,187 | 415,317 | 537,119 | 426,950 |
| ASIA and OCEANIA | | | | |
| Ceylon | 7,931 | 4,500 | 5,000 | 4,500 |
| Netherlands Indies | 3,310 | 800 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| New Guinea | 398 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| New Hebrides | 3,916 | 3,360 | 3,100 | 3,000 |
| Western Samoa | 2,326 | 3,360 | 6,000 | 5,000 |
| Total | 17,881 | 12,420 | 15,500 | 13,900 |
| Grand total | 1,578,939 | 1,359,740 | 1,423,719 | 1,308,705 |

1/ The cacao crop year in most countries extends from October 1 to September 30.

2/ Export data have been used for all countries with the exception of Mexico, Cuba and Colombia.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ Includes Sierra Leone, French Togoland, French Equatorial Africa, Madagascar and Angola.

5/ Includes El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Dominica.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled or estimated from official statistics of foreign governments and United States Foreign Service reports.

# COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

## LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

### INDIAN CARPET WOOL SITUATION AND SHIPMENTS

The fall shorn clip of wool grown in former India, and expected on the market this spring, is estimated at approximately 26 million pounds. This represents a little under one-third of the total production which was estimated at 83 million pounds in 1947 spring and fall clips. The Dominion of India produces about three-fourths of the total and Pakistan the remainder.

Wools grown in India and Pakistan are called "East India Wools" by the trade, and are exported mainly through the ports of Karachi (Pakistan) and Calcutta and Bombay (India). Indian wool shipments include, besides the wool grown in India and Pakistan, some wool from Afghanistan and some from Tibet.

Wool from Afghanistan (Afghan wool) was formerly exported through Karachi and is referred to as Afghan wool by the trade. Indications are that this trade may be smaller in the future. Tibetan wool is exported through the Indian port of Calcutta.

Marketing of East Indian wools in late 1947 and early 1948 has been interrupted by political disturbances which have delayed movement by rail. The railway situation in both Dominions deteriorated in January but in view of the recent betterment of political conditions the shipping situation may be expected to improve. Wool is Class 5 in the railroad priority system of 6 classes.

The tense political situation which has made it difficult to get the wool to market is believed to be mainly responsible for the higher prices of East Indian carpet wools during 1947 but as the situation eases, some decline is anticipated.

Arrivals of wool at the port of Karachi from which Pakistan and Afghan wools are shipped totaled about 20 million pounds in 1947 compared with 31 million pounds in 1946, a decrease of 35 percent. There was a scarcity of good white wools but large quantities of yellow wools were reported at all up-country markets. When these reach market, the unusually high prices are expected to weaken somewhat.

Although United States buyers have made offers, Indian shippers are finding it increasingly difficult to accommodate them because the prices offered are considered unattractive. While Liverpool prices advanced 20 percent during the past two or three months (December-February) American offers advanced only 10 percent, so most of the current business is being done with Liverpool.

Latest reports from Liverpool on the sales of East India wools held there in March indicated an average attendance of buyers, with the Continent moderately represented and the United States showing some interest but on a low price basis. Prices were finally established about 15 to 20 percent below January level.

Exports of East India wools through the ports of Karachi and Bombay in 1947 totaled 43,742,000 pounds according to preliminary figures, 81 percent of which were shipped through the port of Karachi. Of the total exported from these two ports, 25 million pounds was to the United States and 17 million to the United Kingdom.

## Afghan Wool

A large part of the wool from Afghanistan was formerly exported through Karachi. Production is roughly estimated at 15 million pounds. The Sheiket Watan Company, Kandahar, Afghanistan, which by decree of the Afghan government held the complete monopoly on the marketing of Kandahar wool, no longer occupies its former position of monopoly and in the future will handle only 50 percent of the total. This company will continue to forward its wool to the Afghan National Bank, Karachi, but it is believed that some Kandahar wool may reach Karachi through other channels; also large amounts may move from Kandahar to the Soviet Union.

The quantity of Afghan wool exported through Karachi in 1947 was 3,681,000 pounds compared with 5,830,000 pounds in 1946. The bulk of these exports was to the United States which totaled 3,537,000 pounds in 1947 against 5,165,000 in 1946.

## Tibetan Wool

The principal center of collection of Tibetan wool in India is Kalimpong in Pakistan, and it is exported mainly through the port of Calcutta in the Dominion of India.

Shipments have been delayed because of a change in routing from Kalimpong. Bookings from Kalimpong are not allowed via the Parbatipur-Santahar section of the newly constituted Eastern Bengal Railway in East Pakistan and consignments are diverted via the Oudh and Tirhut Railway arriving at Calcutta via Howrah (East Indian Railway) three weeks after loading. An agreement has recently been reached between the railway authorities of Pakistan and India whereby shipments from Kalimpong will be permitted by the old direct route.

Stocks at Kalimpong at the end of December totaled 2,300,000 pounds against 825,000 pounds the end of November.

Exports of Tibetan wool to the United States through Calcutta reached 3,060,000 pounds in 1947, a reduction of 60 percent below 1946 but only slightly smaller than in 1945.

Buyers in the United Kingdom and in the United States are showing keen interest in Tibetan wools. British buyers were offering higher prices than buyers from the United States and in December about 1,000 bales were sold to the United Kingdom which was about double the sales to the United States that month.

## URUGUAYAN REGULATIONS AFFECT BEEF SUPPLY IN MONTEVIDEO

The Government of Uruguay has just issued a decree limiting exports of beef during 1948 to 58,500 metric tons, or 129 million pounds. The decree also makes it mandatory for the private packing houses to hold in cold storage meat from the present slaughter for the consumption of Montevideo. This action was taken in anticipation of the short supply of beef which normally occurs during the winter and spring months.

The new regulations are more inclusive than former ones in that the distribution of the kill from interior community slaughter houses is brought under the control of the national government. This reflects the increased consumption of meat which has been developing in the interior, as many farmers found it more profitable to sell meat there rather than send it to the national market.

The slaughter of breeding cows under 6 years of age is prohibited, and the slaughter of calves is limited to 20 percent of a given herd. Special prices for fat calves and baby beef type steers are to be set up. Formerly there was no incentive for producing this type of beef, since, due to the great expense of seeding pastures and the high cost of grain and forage, cattlemen found it unprofitable to fatten calves and young steers.

Imported cattle for fattening and breeding are declared free of any fees and Custom duties. This is believed to provide for possible importation of cattle from Argentina for slaughter in Uruguay.

The 1948 slaughter season for the packing houses got under way only in February, which is from 30 to 40 days later than in former years. Cattle have been slow to arrive to the national market and, judging by the small number that has been marketed so far, it appears that the official slaughter for 1948 will be smaller than in 1947. The main season is over by the end of June and after that time, only cull cattle are sent to market.

## GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

### CHILE HARVESTS GOOD RICE CROP

The 1947-48 rice crop of Chile now being harvested is placed at 4,881,000 bushels of rough rice, a gain of 14 percent over production a year ago, according to the first official forecast. The acreage decreased 10,000 acres because of lack of water during planting time, but improved supplies as the season progressed resulted in a larger yield per acre than was harvested in last year's poor crop.

A decree recently signed by the Minister of Economy and Commerce establishes the retail price for one standard grade at 12 cents a pound. Previously three grades of rice were sold at 8 cents, 9 cents, and 12.5 cents per pound, respectively. The establishment of "one grade only" is considered as beneficial to the consumer.

RICE: Rice production, trade, and apparent utilization
average 1936-40, annual 1943 to 1948

| Year | Acreage | Yield per acre a/ | Production |  | Net |  | Apparent utilization |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  | Rough | Milled | Imports | Exports |  |
|  | 1,000 acres | Bushels | 1,000 bushels | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| Average: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1936-40 | 13 | 99.9 | 1,299 | 38 | 24 | .. | 62 |
| 1943 | 71 | 75.2 | 5,341 | 156 | - | 51 | 105 |
| 1944 | 91 | 81.3 | 7,395 | 216 | - | 61 | 155 |
| 1945 | 110 | 71.5 | 7,862 | 230 | - | 93 | 137 |
| 1946 | 119 | 48.6 | 5,778 | 169 | - | 78 | 91 |
| 1947 | 80 | 53.4 | 4,274 | 125 | - | b/ 7 | 118 |
| 1948 | 70 | 69.7 | 4,881 | 143 | - | - | - |

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Planted from October to December before year of harvest. b/ Preliminary.

## PHILIPPINE RICE PRICES CONTINUE TO ADVANCE

Retail and wholesale prices of domestic rice in the Philippines continued to rise during the week ended April 3. Milled No. 1 Macan ranged from $10.93 to $12.15 per 100 pounds compared with $10.33 to $10.93 per 100 pounds in the preceding week, and milled No. 2 Macan was $10.73 to $11.95 per 100 pounds compared with $10.12 to $10.73 a week earlier. Rough rice prices to producers, delivered Cabanatuan, were $6.55 to $7.56 per 100 pounds, a gain from $6.30 to $6.55 per 100 pounds. The price of NARIC rice remained stationary at $9.12 per 100 pounds.

(Continued on Page 317)

## FATS AND OILS

## NETHERLANDS INDIES COPRA SITUATION ENCOURAGING 1/

Netherlands Indies copra exports for March amounted to 12,800 long tons, of which 9,800 were shipped to the Netherlands and 3,000 to Sweden. Despite the fact that March exports were less than half the February shipments, the Copra Board now considers the general situation more encouraging and believes that exports may attain 295,000 tons this year exclusive of unrecorded shipments to Singapore, which account for about 50,000 tons a year. April and May exports are forecast at 37,000 tons.

March copra production totaled 23,100 tons, 21,400 in East Indonesia and 1,700 in West Borneo. Stocks at the end of the month reached 39,600 tons, 37,600 in East Indonesia, 1,100 in Borneo, and 900 in Java. Deliveries to local oil mills, continuing the downward trend of the past few months, amounted to only 3,036 tons compared with 4,856 in February.

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1/ A more extensive statement of Far Eastern copra exports can be obtained from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

The purchase price of all grades of copra was raised 5 gulden per 100 kilograms ($1.92 per long ton) on April 1. Former quotations were 26 gulden per 100 kilograms, ($99 per long ton) for Grade A sundried, 25 ($96) for Grade B sundried, 23 ($88) for mixed grade, and 18 ($69) for inferior grade.

As a further stimulus to production, a large supply of incentive goods was expected to arrive in the copra districts in April. In addition to textiles, these goods were to include miscellaneous merchandise such as household goods, implements, and trinkets, all much in demand in the native markets.

NETHERLANDS INDIES: Copra exports, March 1948 with comparisons
(Long tons)

| Country | Average 1935-39 | 1947 a/ | March 1947 a/ | March 1948 a/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mexico | 12,614 | - | - | - |
| United States | 3,909 | 1,546 | - | - |
| Czechoslovakia | 4,896 | 5,000 | - | - |
| Denmark | 72,375 | 7,999 | - | - |
| France | 12,748 | 4,000 | - | - |
| Germany | 64,674 | - | - | - |
| Italy | 23,103 | - | - | - |
| Netherlands | 133,841 | 114,157 | 26,498 | 9,837 |
| Norway | 31,810 | 5,469 | - | - |
| Sweden | 6,886 | 3,200 | - | 3,000 |
| Switzerland | 17 | 2,082 | - | - |
| Lebanon | - | 1,525 | - | - |
| Singapore | 107,285 | - | - | - |
| Union of South Africa | - | 5,249 | - | - |
| Others | 33,227 | - | - | - |
| Total | 507,385 | b/150,227 | b/ 26,498 | b/12,837 |

Copra Board, Batavia.
a/ Subject to revision. b/ Does not include unrecorded shipments to Singapore.

## BRAZILIAN OITICICA OUTPUT EXPECTED TO DOUBLE LAST YEAR'S

Brazilian production of oiticica nuts may reach 33,000 short tons this season if present propsects materialize. This would double the 1947 output of 16,500 tons but would be smaller than the 35,000-ton harvest of 1946. Oiticica production has been erratic within the last ten year, varying from a high of 52,000 tons in 1938 to a low of 7,000 in 1943. The small crop of 1947 is attributed to adverse weather conditions.

The State of Ceara is the leading producer of oiticica nuts, accounting for more than half of the country's total in 1946. Most of the remainder was gathered in Paraiba, but Rio Grande do Norte also contributed a substantial quantity.

The 1948 output of oiticica oil is expected to be approximately 16,500 tons, compared with 7,700 in 1947 and 17,200 in 1946. Ceara is the center of the oiticica seed crushing industry, accounting for 13,400 tons of the 1946 total.

Domestic consumption of oiticica oil, which has increased steadily for the past several years, is still only about 1,000 tons annually. This oil is used to some extent in the manufacture of paints and varnishes, usually in combination with dehydrated castor oil and linseed oil.

Shipments of oiticica oil amounted to more than twice the tonnage of any other vegetable oil exported in 1946. In recent years all but a small percentage of the oil processed has been sent abroad, the United States being the principal importer. Exports amounted to 16,000 tons in 1946, compared with 13,000 in 1945 and the record of 18,000 shipped in 1941. Because of the decline in production in 1947, oiticica oil shipments dropped to less than half the year before.

BRAZIL: Oiticica oil exports, 1947 with comparisons

| Country of destination | Average 1935-39 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 a/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons | Short tons |
| United States | 3,510 | 11,327 | 13,187 | 3,223 |
| Belgium | 83 | - | 1,120 | - |
| Denmark | 22 | - | 99 | 143 |
| France | 21 | 588 | 563 | 112 |
| Germany | 300 | - | - | - |
| Netherlands | 135 | - | - | - |
| Norway | b/ | 491 | 232 | 121 |
| Sweden | 22 | 121 | 304 | 203 |
| United Kingdom | 177 | 235 | - | 1,149 |
| Others | 22 | 199 | 495 | 975 |
| Total | 4,292 | 12,961 | 16,000 | 5,926 |

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Preliminary. b/ Less than .5 ton.

## TURKEY'S 1947 OILSEED HARVEST REVISED UPWARD

Revised estimates now show that Turkey's 1947 oilseed production exceeded that of 1946 and the prewar average by about 32 and 18 percent, respectively. A total of approximately 255,000 tons was harvested, 103,000 tons of which were cottonseed. The latter crop, however, was the only oilseed whose output in 1947 was less than the 1946 and the prewar average harvests.

The greatest expansion occurred in sunflower-seed; 77,000 tons were produced compared with 9,000 a year ago and the 1935-39 average of less than 3,000 tons. Notable increases also occurred in flaxseed, 707,000 bushels compared with 296,000 in 1946 and 349,000 prewar, and sesame seed, 35,000 tons, compared with 29,000 in 1946 and 32,000 prewar. Poppy-seed outturn rose from 11,000 tons in 1946 to 16,000 in 1947 and soybeans from 16,000 to 55,000 bushels. Hempseed production of 2,600 tons, though slightly larger than in prewar years was almost 80 percent less than the 12,000-ton harvest of 1946.

No vegetable oilseeds were imported into Turkey in 1947 and only limited quantities were exported because of the continuance of wartime restrictions. No export permits were granted for cottonseed and oil, sunflower seed and oil, or sesame-seed oil. Less than 2,000 tons of sesame seed were authorized for export. Other exports, through October 1947, included 7,700 tons of flaxseed, 2,400 of hempseed, 600 of poppy seed and 550 of soybeans.

Because of the ban on exports, prices of vegetable oilseeds and oils declined steadily during the last six months of 1947, and considerable dissatisfaction was expressed by producers and the trade because of the restriction, but the government insisted the ban was necessary to reduce the cost of living. Cottonseed oil prices (wholesale) dropped from 290 piasters per kilogram (46.96 cents per pound) to 195 (31.58) from July 1 to December 1. Sunflower-seed oil went from 218 (35.30) to 181 (29.31) for the same period, but late in December the price of seed went up, as no seed could be found.

TURKEY: Vegetable oilseed production, 1947 with comparisons

| Oilseed | Unit | Average 1935-39 | 1946 | 1947 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cottonseed a/ | Short tons | b/ 147,816 | 122,582 | 102,715 |
| Sunflower seed | Short tons | 2,534 | 9,174 | 76,891 |
| Flaxseed | c/1,000 bushels | 349 | 296 | 707 |
| Sesame seed | Short tons | 31,757 | 28,793 | 35,210 |
| Poppy seed | Short tons | 11,004 | 11,460 | 15,957 |
| Hempseed | Short tons | 2,605 | 12,442 | 2,643 |
| Soybeans | d/100 bushels | e/ 367 | 16 | 55 |

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Commercial production. b/ Average of less than 5 years. c/ Bushels of 56 pounds. d/ Bushels of 60 pounds. e/ 1938 only.

## FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

### CUBA'S PINEAPPLE CROP ABOUT SAME AS LAST YEAR'S

Cuban production of pineapple in 1948 is forecast at 370 million pounds net, fresh pineapple equivalent, about the same as in 1947 but almost two and a half times more than in prewar years.

Production in 1947, estimated at 370 million pounds, is 3 percent more than the 1946 output of 358 million, and 137 percent more than the 156 million produced in the 1935-39 prewar period. Harvested acreage in 1947 is estimated roughly at 30,000 acres, with a probable yield of about 12,250 pounds per acre. Of the 1948 crop, about 20 percent is expected to be shipped fresh, 54 percent canned, depending on the supply of tin plate and finished cans, 6 percent probably will be barreled in brine, and 20 percent consumed locally.

Fresh pineapple exports valued at $1.9 million in 1947 were 22 percent of the value of all pineapple and pineapple products exported, compared with 28 percent in 1946 and 68 percent in the 5-year average (1935-39).

The value of canned pineapple exports was 69 percent of the value of pineapple and pineapple products during 1947, as compared with 67 percent in 1946 and with 28 percent prewar (1935-39). Exports of pineapple in brine in 1947 amounted to 5.7 million pounds, compared with 3.2 million in 1946 and with 1.2 million prewar.

The United States is Cuba's principal market for fresh and processed pineapple. In 1947, the United States imported 133.5 million pounds (94 percent) of Cuba's fresh pineapple and its products. This compared with 153.7 million in 1946 and 90.8 million during the 5-years 1935-39. Canada is the second best customer, taking in the first 10 months of 1947 about 7.5 million pounds valued at $420,000, of pineapple and its products.

PINEAPPLE, fresh and processed: Exports from Cuba, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1945-1947

| Item | Average 1935-39 | Average 1940-44 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds |
| Fresh | 85,891 | 64,035 | 92,902 | 115,528 | 97,913 |
| Canned | | | | | |
| In Juice | 6,025 | 19,072 | 18,309 | 40,073 | 40,649 |
| In syrup | 0 | 262 | 1,301 | 1,080 | 1,265 |
| Juice only | 22 | 79 | 348 | 1,521 | 4,634 |
| In brine | 1,222 | 2,454 | 1,786 | 3,252 | 5,681 |
| Total | 93,160 | 85,902 | 114,646 | 161,454 | 150,142 |

PINEAPPLE, fresh and processed: Estimated Cuban production, calendar years, average 1935-1939 and 1940-1944 annual 1945-1948

| Year | Fresh pineapple, equivalent net weight | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Exported 1/ | | | | Consumed locally 2/ | Total production |
| | Fresh | Canned In Juice | Canned In Syrup | Barreled in brine | | |
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| Average | | | | | | |
| 1935-39 | 86 | 26 | 0 | 5 | 39 | 156 |
| 1940-44 | 64 | 81 | 1 | 11 | 52 | 209 |
| Annual | | | | | | |
| 1945 | 93 | 78 | 5 | 8 | 32 | 216 |
| 1946 | 116 | 170 | 4 | 15 | 53 | 358 |
| 1947 | 93 | 173 | 5 | 25 | 74 | 370 |
| 1948 3/ | 75 | 190 | 10 | 20 | 75 | 370 |

1/ Converted at the following rates: 4 1/4 lbs. fresh to 1 lb. canned. Declared weight canned in syrup, is reduced 16 percent to arrive at content minus syrup. Barreled in brine is converted at the rate of 3.9 lbs fresh to one pound net, in brine. Declared export weight increased 15 percent to arrive at actual export weight. 2/ Estimated at 25 percent of production for 1935-1944; 15 percent 1945-1946 and 20 percent 1947 and 1948. 3/ Estimated.

## COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

### COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths and qualities in specific markets

| Market location, kind, and quality | Date 1948 | Unit of weight | Unit of currency | Price in foreign currency | Equivalent U.S. cents per pound |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alexandria a/ | | Kantar | | | |
| Ashmouni, Good | 4-15 | 99.05 lbs. | Tallari | 86.50 | 72.18 |
| Ashmouni, F.G.F. | " | " | " | 80.50 | 67.17 |
| Giza 7, good | " | " | " | 90.00 | 75.10 |
| Giza 7, F.G.F. | " | " | " | (not quoted) | |
| Karnak, Good | " | " | " | 106.00 | 88.45 |
| Karnak, F.G.F. | " | " | " | (not quoted) | |
| Bombay | | Candy | | | |
| Jarila, Fine | " | 784 lbs. | Rupee | 682.00 | 26.24 |
| Broach, Fine | " | " | " | 892.00 | 34.33 |
| Sind American, Fine | " | " | " | (not quoted) | |
| Punjab " 289-F, Fine | " | " | " | (not quoted) | |
| Kampala, East African | " | " | " | (not available) | |
| Buenos Aires a/ | | Metric ton | | | |
| Type B | 4-16 | 2204.6 lbs. | Peso | 2,810.00 | 37.95 |
| Lima | | Sp. quintal | | | |
| Tanguis, Type 5 | 4-15 | 101.4 lbs. | Sol | b/205.00 | 31.10 |
| Pima, Type 1 | " | " | " | (not quoted) | |
| Recife | | Arroba | | | |
| Mata, Type 5 | 4-16 | 33.07 lbs. | Cruzeiro | (not available) | |
| Sertao, Type 5 | " | " | " | 160.00 | 26.32 |
| Sao Paulo | | | | | |
| Sao Paulo, Type 5 | " | " | " | 180.50 | 29.70 |
| Torreon | | Sp. quintal | | | |
| Middling, 15/16" | " | 101.4 lbs. | Peso | 167.00 | 33.88 |

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

a/ Prices omitted from last week's table: For Alexandria, in tallaris per kantar with U.S. cents per pound in parentheses, Ashmouni, Good 88.00 (73.43), Ashmouni, F.G.F. 82.00 (68.42), Karnak, Good 106.00 (88.44), others not quoted. For Buenos Aires, in pesos per metric ton, Type B 2,810.00 (37.95).
b/ Nominal.

### ANGOLA SISAL PRODUCTION CONTINUES HIGH

Sisal production in Angola (Portuguese West Africa) was estimated at nearly 28 million pounds from about 41,400 acres in 1947, compared with an average of less than 10 million pounds per year before the war. An early forecast of about 33 million pounds in 1948 from 44,500 acres indicates that the relatively high production level attained during the war is expected to continue through the year.

A small quantity of sisal is consumed locally in the manufacture of rope and twine, but most of the crop is exported. Exports of raw fiber, rope, and twine during 1933-37 averaged 9.3 million pounds per year, and increased to 11.5 million per year during 1938-42, and to 28.9 million per year during the four-year period 1943-46. Before World War II, most of Angola's sisal was shipped to the United Kingdom, Belgium, and Germany, to the United States and Portugal during the five years 1941-45, and to the United States and Spain, with Portugal ranking third, during 1946.

## SISAL PRODUCTION SMALL IN SUMATRA

Sisal fiber production in the East Coast Province of Sumatra is expected to exceed 10 million pounds in 1948 after a period of negligible output during the war and the early postwar period. Before World War II, it is estimated that about 55 percent of the Netherlands East Indies sisal crop was produced in the Province, and the remainder in Java and the Lampong Districts of South Sumatra. Production statistics are not available, but calculations based on export statistics indicate from 150 to 200 million pounds of sisal a year were produced in the Netherlands East Indies during prewar years.

## ALGERIAN ALFA AND CRIN VEGETAL PRODUCTION ABOUT NORMAL

Production of alfa (or esparto grass) in Algeria in 1947 is estimated at approximately 500 million pounds, although potential production is nearly 900 million pounds from the estimated 9 million acres of land on which alfa flourishes in that country.

Domestic consumption is estimated at little more than 200 million pounds, leaving about 300 million pounds for export. However, exports in 1947 are estimated at only about 227 million pounds. The United Kingdom is the principal market, where the fiber is used in the manufacture of a superior quality of paper for magazines, de luxe editions of books and special periodicals. France also imports sizable quantities, and the French Colonies account for the remainder.

No production statistics are available for crin vegetal in Algeria, but exports, usually accounting for practically all of the harvest, totaled about 16.8 million pounds in 1947. A labor shortage is reported to have reduced production somewhat last year as many laborers shifted to other industries paying higher wages.

Most of the exports are in the form of twisted rope. About 75 percent of the exports in 1947 were destined for France. Prewar imports of crin vegetal into the United States averaged about 12.3 million pounds annually, but French Morocco was the principal source.

(Table on following page)

ALGERIA: Imports and exports of alfa and crin vegetal, 1945-47

| Country of origin | Imports |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Alfa |  |  | Crin vegetal |  |  |
|  | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 |
|  | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds |
| Morocco........ | 0 | 0 | 26 | 859 | 437 | 2,965 |
| France......... | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 33 |
| Tangier........ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Total...... | 0 | 5 | 26 | 859 | 455 | 3,009 |

| Country of destination | Exports |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Alfa |  |  | Crin Vegetal |  |  |
|  | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1945 | 1946 | 1497 |
|  | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds |
| France......... | 14,842 | 34,717 | 54,880 | 4,090 | 16,728 | 12,574 |
| Fr. Colonies.. | 159 | 291 | 280 | 134 | 828 | 1,686 |
| Others......... | 822 | 49,997 | 171,552 | 134 | 1,029 | 2,523 |
| Total..... | 15,823 | 85,005 | 226,712 | 4,358 | 18,585 | 16,733 |

Compiled from a current consular report.

## GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

(Continued from Page 310)

### FRENCH BREADGRAIN CONDITION EXCELLENT

The condition of winter-sown grain in France is excellent, according to recent reports. The acreage in breadgrains this year will be considerably larger than in 1947, when unusually heavy winter-kill sharply reduced the acreage for harvest. Very little damage to this year's crop resulted from the cold weather during late February. With the exception of that period, the winter was unusually mild.

The area seeded to wheat as of April 1 was 10.4 million acres, compared with last year's harvested area, estimated at 9.2 million acres. Further spring sowings, which are being made under favorable conditions, may bring the total wheat acreage to about 10.8 million acres. At that level, however, it would still be about 15 percent below the 1935-39 average.

The rye acreage on April 1 was placed at 1.2 million acres, slightly above the harvested acreage in 1947. Rainfall was considerably below normal during February and March. If the deficiency should continue through April, the situation would become serious, though soil moisture reserves are reported abundant at present.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

### REGULATIONS UNDER BRAZILIAN LICENSING LAW EXEMPT FOOD IMPORTS

Regulations were published April 6 to implement the new Brazilian import and export licensing law, promulgated February 25, 1948. This law, which is to remain in force until June 30, 1949, authorizes the Executive authority to place imports and exports, with certain specified exceptions, under the prior license system.

In the case of imports, foodstuffs of prime necessity, cement, and pharmaceuticals, are exempt from the license requirement. Under the heading of foodstuffs of prime necessity, the regulations specify wheat flour and meal, corn, oats, barley, rice, mandioca flour, sugar, potatoes, beans, fresh vegetables, onions, garlic, wine vinegar, poultry, eggs, meat, bacon, lard, butter, and cheese. In addition, goods imported for certain special purposes, such as small commercial samples, government orders, and imports for the Quitandinha International Exposition, do not require licenses.

Import license priority under the new law is to be on the basis established for exchange priority in mid-1947, in which Category I covered essential raw materials, articles of prime necessity, and products of national interest, while Category 4 included all other imports. (Categories 2, 3, and 5 covered other types of international transactions.) Exchange allocated for imports in the future will be distributed under three somewhat different classifications, A, B, C, in the proportions of 75 percent, partly for commodities not requiring license and partly for those in license class A; 20 percent for those in license class B; and 5 percent for those in C. The exchange classification must appear on all import licenses, but former listing of a commodity for first category exchange treatment does not give assurance that it will be given "A" status on import licenses. When necessary, imports may be licensed on the basis of quotas set up to meet requirements for a specified period.

In the case of exports, all commodities are required to be licensed, with the single exception of goods from the Quitandinha Exposition. Hence, even coffee is subject to export license. However, licenses may be refused only when necessary in order to build up stocks to meet domestic requirements, and these restrictions on exports are limited by the licensing law to such quantities of any domestic products as were consumed or industrialized during the preceding year, plus 7 percent of such quantities.

Both import and export licenses are valid for 150 days, and are subject to extension. Goods shipped to Brazil in violation of license requirements will be confiscated and sold at public auction.

An advisory commission is established to study the development of export and import trade, and the best use of foreign exchange reserves, with special attention to reducing the backlog of pending dollar collections; to ensure a regular supply for domestic markets and commitments under international agreement; to restrict imports of non-essential articles and those of which a satisfactory quality is produced in Brazil at reasonable prices; to promote imports of prime necessities under present world conditions; and to suggest additions to the list of imports now exempt from license requirements.

## NEW COLONIZATION AND LAND REFORM LAW ENACTED IN URUGUAY

With the announced purpose of increasing agricultural production and improving conditions for farm workers, the Uruguayan legislature recently enacted a law creating a National Colonization Institute to function as an autonomous body with full legal authority and adequate resources for buying, renting, or expropriating land, and organizing colonies of either Uruguayans or immigrants, or both. At least one colony is to be settled in each Department in the country.

Prospective colonists must be of good character, not less than 18 years old, preferably married and with a family suitable for working, and must possess sufficient knowledge and aptitude for their chosen work. Preference will be given to evicted farmers, persons having special skills, sons of colonists, and those organized in cooperatives and syndicates. It is expected that consumers' and buyers' cooperatives will be organized in each colony.

Farms in these colonies will be sold on a 30-year payment plan, which may be raised to 45 years, a mortgage being drawn in favor of the Institute. In determining the amount of this obligation, farms will be appraised according to their productive capacity and possibilities of development. Colonists must meet their payments promptly unless prevented by circumstances beyond their control, but payments may be made either in money or in kind, and work done for the Institute will be credited against the corresponding obligations.

The increased production desired is to be secured first, by making the best possible use of the land, whether for cultivated crops, forests, or grazing purposes, and second, by the adoption of mechanization, irrigation, soil conservation and other modern farming methods.

Farms may be operated individually, cooperatively, or collectively, but the colonists must live on the land and work it directly. The State will provide land, credit, and technical assistance, and assume the responsibility of building roads, schools, hospitals, and community centers, as well as industrial plants for processing agricultural products.

WORLD CACAO (Continued from Page 305)

8 million pounds in the prewar years to 5 million in 1947-48. Before the war, the Netherlands Indies exported about 3 million pounds a year of very high grade cacao. A million pounds may be produced in 1947-48, but a large part of it probably will be consumed locally.

The New Hebrides and Western Samoa are the chief producers in Oceania. The New Hebrides production, placed at 3 million pounds, is somewhat less than before the war, whereas production in Western Samoa is believed to have increased from about 2 million pounds in prewar years to 5 million during the current season.

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This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production prepared by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, J. Bernard Gibbs, and Helen B. Whitmore.